

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method, comprising:
generating, via a computing device, data representative of an item dispensed from one of a plurality decentralized storage locations;
transmitting said data representative of the item to a centralized computing system;
electronically determining if a first quantity of the item stored at the decentralized storage location is below a first predetermined level;
automatically generating a restocking order to restock the item at the decentralized storage location in response to the first quantity of the item stored at the decentralized storage location being below the first predetermined level;
in response to generating the restocking order, automatically generating a restocking package at the restocking storage location to fulfill the restocking order;
in response to fulfillment of the restocking order, electronically determining if a second quantity of the item stored at the restocking storage location is below a second predetermined level;
automatically generating a purchase order ordering a third quantity of the item in response to the second quantity of the item stored at the restocking storage location being below the second predetermined level; and
transmitting the purchase order to a distributor computing system.

2. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 1 further comprising causing display of said purchase order before transmitting said purchase order to the distributor computing system.

3. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the centralized computing system comprises an online data exchange system that transmits the purchase order to the distributor computing system.

4. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 1 further comprising receiving (a) a notification that items in the purchase order have been shipped and

(b) barcode information associated with the shipment, wherein the barcode information identifies the items in the purchase order.

5. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 4 further comprising:

receiving barcode information from a scan of the barcode at the restocking location after receiving the shipment; and
updating the second quantity of the item stored at the restocking storage location.

6. – 24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the decentralized storage location comprises a cabinet.

26. – 27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 1 further comprising:

receiving, via the distributor computing system, the purchase order from the centralized computing system;
automatically assembling the items identified in the purchase order; and
transmitting (a) a notification that items have been shipped by the supplier and (b) barcode information associated with the shipment to the centralized computing system.